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you things that have taken place since this bill was passed. And I think that in looking at that you can understand why I've decided to ask for funds to continue this activity. There were requests for 215 projects during the 4 years that this has been in effect. The average request was for \$20,000, and the match on that was at 119 percent, which shows that the people who were asking for grants were, in fact, willing to put up their own dollars in order to match those dollars to do the things that we wanted to do. If you'd look on the page 8, you'll see the types of projects that were...that were impacted with this...with this bill. And you can take a look, it goes clear across the spectrum of agriculture, business, cooperatives, housing, labor recruitment, many things that are needed that I consider important for economic development in the state of Nebraska. I've also passed out the original bill, which was passed in 1995, and it was signed by 29 senators who were in the Legislature at that time. That also spells out what the real purpose of the bill is. If you'll look under Section 1, it enumerates the various activities that were to be carried out. As many of you know, I've been a strong advocate of economic development, and I felt this is a tool that would, in fact, bring communities and counties in areas together to work for a common cause and provide some funding for them to carry out the activities that they have set forth to attempt to do. I feel like I can say with some pride that this has been a very well accepted piece of legislation that has been used by, as you can see for yourself, all 93 counties in the state of Nebraska have availed themselves of this funding mechanism. The grants have gone all the way from 3,000 to \$25,000, depending on the request and what the project was and how valuable it appeared to be. And a committee, a screening committee has been established who, in fact, reviews those to determine which ones, in fact, merit funding. I could go on for quite some time in talking about why I think this is important. First of all, to reindicate there were 215 applications that were submitted, and out of those 76 projects were actually funded. And because of the screening process, it was determined that we would only try to fund those projects that had the highest degree of merit and would, in fact, be able to perform the greatest amount of success. If you would look at that book sometime, you could take some time to review it, you could find out what some of those projects were and what the value that they were. There were...more than 800